HEALTH EQUAL RIGHTS OF DISABILITIES UNDER COVID-19

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1. COVID-19 Daily press conference

- Since Jan 21, 2020, National Health Command Center (NHCC) calls press conference at 14:00 everyday for the latest news. There was no sign languages provided until Jan 28 after LPD informed the NHCC. For the
- The conference recorded video were provided subtitles after it finished until March, 2020.
- Live subtitles were provided after June 2020.
- A special event “U.S-Taiwan Health Cooperation MOU Signing” press conference were hold in Aug.10, but there was still no sign languages nor subtitles provided.
2. Masks distributing and selling

- Since Feb. 6, 2020, masks selling were controlled. People can’t buy masks in pharmacy without Health ID card certified. People can register and buying on official website too, but it is not available for blind users. It hadn’t improved until Apr.
- There are official Mask buying APP too, but not friendly for blind users either.
- Convenient stores have support for registered masks selling too, but the check-in machine is not available for blind users either.
3. Other inequality of information distribution

• Special calling lines for COVID-19 (1922, 1922, 0800-030-598) not available for deaf users. After LPD negotiated with NHCC, fax and email text communication are opened. However, it can’t provided instantly response until now.

• A lot of official videos were released with multiple languages, but still no sign languages edition provided.

• There is no easy to read or understand information release.
4. Separation and Medical treatment

• Special treatments for COVID-19 prevention can’t provided efficient accessibility equipment and assistants for people with disabilities, like negative pressure isolation ward.

• NHCC said it will invest hospitals to improve the accessibility in negative pressure isolation ward after May 2020.
Advocacy for “Effects Evaluation of People with Disabilities”

• Implement “Effects Evaluation of People with Disabilities” before public policy making.
• Especially events like natural disaster, infectious disease happening.